

DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of All Sizes

Release Date: January 7, 2005 **Release Number:** 3652-02 **Contact:** Rick Jenkins **Phone:** (916) 735-1500

SBA Re-Opens Honolulu Disaster Office, Deadline Nears for Victims of October 30 Flooding

Sacramento, CA – Andrew Poepoe, Director of the U. S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Hawaii District Office, today reminded homeowners and business owners in the City and County of Honolulu that SBA will be in Honolulu from January 11 to 18 to provide personal service to victims of the heavy rains and flooding that occurred October 30. SBA will be at the **High Technology Development Corporation, Manoa Innovation Center, 2800 Woodlawn Drive, Suite 101**, to offer assistance to residents and businesses that suffered losses in the disaster.

SBA will resume operations on **Tuesday**, **January 11 at 8 am.** The office will be open **Tuesday** through Friday, from 8 am to 12 pm and 1 pm to 5:30 pm; Saturday from 9:00 am to 1 pm, and **Tuesday**, **January 18** from 8 am to 12 pm and 1 pm to 5:30 pm. January 18 is the deadline to submit an application for property losses. "SBA's loan officer will be available to answer questions about how a disaster loan may help each victim recover fom the fires and provide one-on-one assistance in completing their loan application," Poepoe said.

According to Alfred E. Judd, Disaster Area Director, disaster loans of up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property. Secondary homes are not eligible. However, rental properties may be eligible for business loan assistance.

"Businesses of any size and private non-profit organizations may borrow up to \$1.5 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. Additionally, Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$1.5 million are available to small businesses only if they were adversely impacted financially by the fires, even if they had no property damage," Judd continued.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit SBA in person should mail their completed applications to **SBA Disaster Area 4, P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841-9004.** They may also obtain applications and information by calling toll-free (800) 488-5323. Hearing impaired individuals may call (916) 735-1683.

The deadline to submit applications for property damage is January 18, 2005. Applications for economic injury must be submitted by August 16, 2005.